



One of the leaders of the 'Cobourg Conspiracy' against Robert Henry's bank was Benjamin Lett, a notorious "Patriot". Lett left mayhem in his wake and a reputation for both avoiding and escaping capture. Whether involved or not, he was justifiably accused of the bombing of Brock's Monument in 1840.

## HIS FAMILY:

Christy Bethune Farrand was Henry's second wife. His first had been a cousin of the Bethunes. Christy and Robert had two daughters both of whom married influential men in the community.

- Cecilia married Robert Henry Throop, son of Benjamin Throop, one of Cobourg's earliest settlers.
- Julia Christy married John Sinclair Wallace, great-grandson of the Earl of Caithness. John Sinclair came to Cobourg in 1843 with his father Captain Patrick Wallace and his cousins, the Mackechnies, establishing a number of early important industries.

"Squire Henry", as he was locally known, recounted stories of his adventures in the fur trade. [He] ...*"endured all sorts of hardships. One winter when provisions fell short he and his companions were obliged to cut up their leather aprons and shoes to keep starvation off."* After that he is said to have declared, *"I'm much inclined to leave this rascally Country forever."* Fortunately for Cobourg, he did not.

## WHAT ELSE:

Mrs. Frances Stewart, author of *Our Forest Home*, wrote:

*"Mr. Henry is most entertaining and friendly showing much kindness in many ways. About Mrs. Henry she says, [She] is pleasing and improves very much on acquaintance and seems greatly attached to her husband who is much older. Her mother Mrs. Bethune, who lives opposite the Henrys in a little cottage, was a fine, merry old lady."*



*The Henry house* - a one storey long low Regency Cottage at King and Church St. E., probably built in 1833. A second floor was added c1850. The house was destroyed by fire c1994.